MEDIA RELEASE

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BOWLING GREEN MAN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS FOR VIOLATING FEDERAL CHILD EXPLOITATION LAWS

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that on September 6, 2006, **NATHAN PIERPONT**, age 27, of 1500 Bryant Way, Greenwood Villa H7, Bowling Green, Kentucky, in Warren County was sentenced to 7 years and 3 months imprisonment, plus supervised release for life following release from prison, for two charges of violating federal child pornography laws. The charges included receiving and possessing child pornography. **There is no parole in the federal judicial system**. **Pierpont** had previously pled guilty to the charges in May of this year.

During the guilty plea hearing held on May 3, 2006, **Pierpont** acknowledged that there was a factual basis for the charges against him and admitted that from his residence in Bowling Green he used a computer connected to the Internet to obtain, (*i.e.*, receive), images of child pornography. He obtained the images of child pornography between June 2004 and January 2005. Once **Pierpont** obtained the images from the Internet, he saved them on his computer, thereby possessing them. When law enforcement officials seized his computer on March 29, 2005, **Pierpont** knowingly possessed numerous images of child pornography. Under federal law, child pornography includes

any visual depiction, such as any photograph, film, video, picture, or computer or computergenerated image or picture of sexually explicit conduct in which the production of such depiction involves the use of a minor engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

According to court filings, Pierpont's collection of child pornography included video and still images, totaling 474 images. The images clearly depicted children engaging in sexual acts with adults, including oral sex and intercourse. For example, one video with a running time of :41 seconds begins with a girl (approximately 12-14 years old) performing oral sex on an erect male penis. The camera angle changes, to reveal a teenaged male lying on a bed with his penis exposed. The girl then masturbates the male. In another video file with a running time of :59 seconds, a young female is shown lying naked on her stomach on a bed. An adult man is shown whispering in her ear while he engages in sexual intercourse with the girl. At one point, she covers her face with her hands. The man is entering the girl from behind. The camera zooms in to show the repeated penetration of the girl. A small break occurs. The camera then shows a young female on top of the male. The two are engaged in sexual intercourse. The female is facing the camera, with her back to the male. She is shown squatting over him while he penetrates her. One still image showed a very young female child (approximately six years old) performing oral sex on an adult man. In another image, a very young female child (approximately six years old) is shown lying on her back on a bed. Her legs are spread and in the air. An adult man is standing at the end of the bed leaning over her engaging in sexual intercourse.

Assistant United States Attorney Jo E. Lawless prosecuted the case. The United States Secret Service in close conjunction with the Bowling Green Police Department conducted the investigation.